

The Knoxville Independent

GEO. W. FORD, EDITOR.

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Your Flag and My Flag

By WILBUR D. NESBIT

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And oh, how much it holds—
Your land and my land—secure within its folds!
Your heart and my heart beat quicker at the sight;
Sun-kissed and wind-tossed, red and blue and white.
The one Flag—the great Flag—the Flag for me and you—
Gleams all alike beside—the red and white and blue.

YOUR Flag and my Flag! And how it flies today
In your land and my land and half a world away!
Rose-red and blood-red the stripes forever gleam;
Snow-white and soul-white—the good forefather's dream!

Sty-blue and true blue, with stars to gleam bright—
The glorious guidon of the day; a shelter through the night

Your Flag and my Flag! To every star and stripe
The drums beat as hearts beat and fife shrilly pipe.
Your Flag and my Flag—a blessing in the sky;
Your hope and my hope—It never hid a lie!
Home land and far land and half the world around,
Old Glory hears our glad salute and ripples to the sound!



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"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Abraham Lincoln.

YARD WORKERS GET ADVANCE

Increase of Ten Per Cent Awarded Employees of Oil Companies and East Jersey Railroad.

Notice was posted in the yards of the Tidewater Oil company, Bayonne, N. J., that the company had granted the employees an increase of 10 per cent in wages. The employees of the East Jersey Railroad company, controlled by the company, also benefit, and the increase, which affects 2,000 men, went into effect at once. The increase closely followed a similar raise by the Standard Oil company to its 9,000 employees in Bayonne, Rahway and Jersey City. The total increase by both companies since 1915 is 89 per cent.

Government Orders Freight Cars.
Contracts for 70,000 freight cars, aggregating approximately \$300,000,000, have been awarded by the railroad administration, bringing the total number of cars contracted for delivery this year to 100,000.

This is the largest single order for freight cars ever let. Together with orders already placed, the contracts awarded today make up a railroad rolling stock-building program, which will shortly be under way, of \$325,000,000, including \$80,000,000 for 1,025 locomotives ordered two days ago.

Women Shipbuilders.

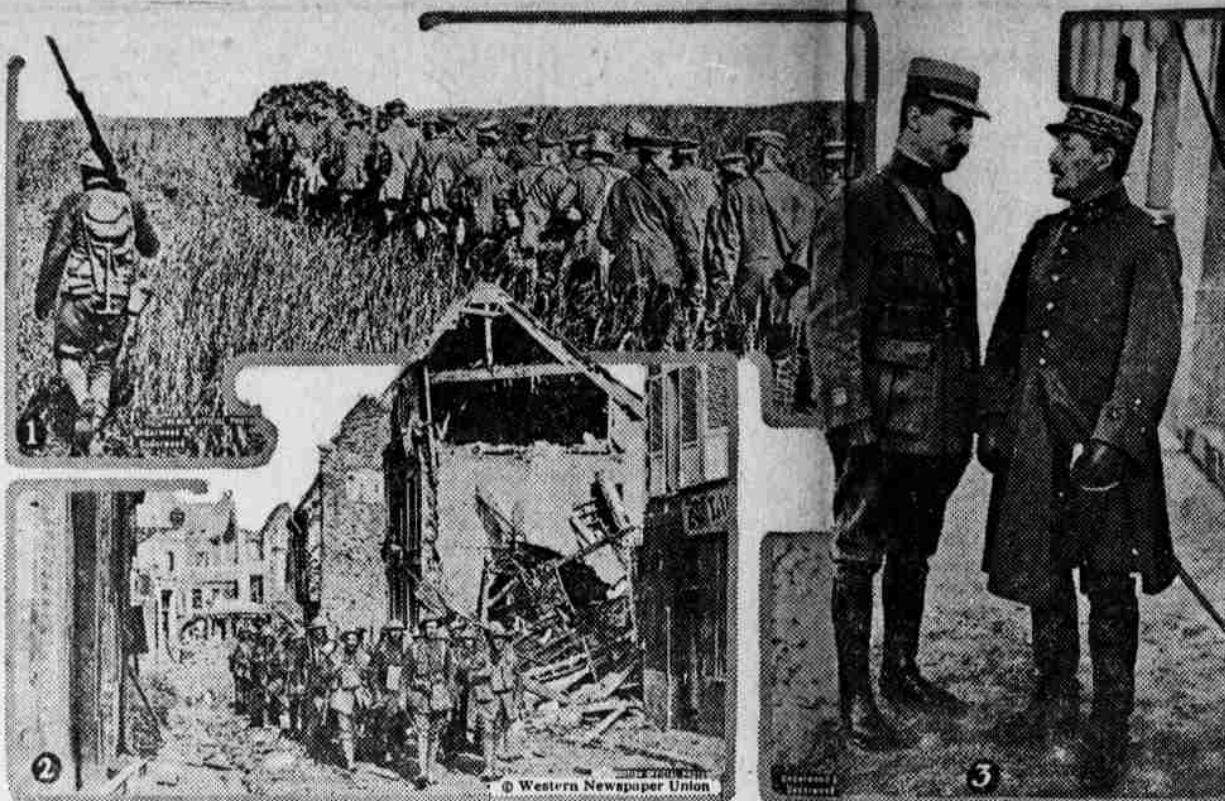
In nearly all the shipbuilding plants in England and Scotland women are employed in large numbers. One plant alone employs more than 6,000 women.



The realities of war have never been portrayed so graphically and vividly as in the gripping narrative,

Gunner Depew

READ IT!



1—One lone American acting as guard of a long line of Hun prisoners. 2—Scene in the ruins of Peronne, which the British have recaptured. 3—General Humbert, commander of the French army northwest of Noyon, in conversation with a colonel.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

British Smash the Wotan Line and French and Yankees Drive Huns North.

GERMANS QUIT VESLE RIVER

Continue Their Retreat From Lys Sector, Where Americans Fight on Belgian Soil—Bolsheviks Are Defeated in Siberia and Northern Russia.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The whole western front, from Ypres to Reims, was ablaze all the week, and throughout all the long stretch the Germans continued their retreat. The armies of the allies followed closely on their heels, hammering at them day and night and giving them not a moment's pause for reorganization of their wearied forces. It was another week of uninterrupted allied success, and the withdrawal of the Huns was extended to include the Vesle river sector, between Soissons and Reims. Until Wednesday there had been little activity there, except continuous artillery work and some sharp fighting between the Americans and the Germans in the region of Fismes and Fismette. But in the first days of the week airplane observers reported evidences of a coming retreat by the enemy, and this developed on Wednesday. The American and French patrols pursued the Huns promptly and by Thursday had reached the crest dominating the Aisne, across which river the Germans seemed likely to take the main bodies of their troops.

This retrograde movement was made necessary by the successful advance of General Mangin's army north and northwest of Soissons between the Aisne and the Aisne, threatening the Chemin des Dames and flanking the enemy line toward Fismes. With the aid of Americans, Mangin was moving steadily down the Aisne plateau and in the direction of Laon, and it appeared doubtful that the Huns would be able to remain long south of the Hindenburg line through Anzy and Craonne. They were driven out of Clemency, Bray, Missy-sur-Aisne and many other towns in this region, and the French as early as Wednesday night were in the outskirts of Coucy, one of the important German bases on the edge of the St. Gobain forest. Between there and Chauny the enemy was forced from a series of dominating heights that he has relied on to protect La Fere. To the northwest of Chauny equally important victories gave General Humbert possession of Guiscard and Maucourt after he had forced the retirement of the enemy from Mont St. Simeon and the Canal du Nord. This latter action was a desperate fight, for the German positions were protected by a wilderness of wire entanglements and by innumerable machine-gun nests. Captured officers said they had orders to retreat to the region of Bethancourt, northwest of Chauny. There were indications that the Huns planned to make a stand on a line through Ham, but the French advance was so swift that their ability to do this was doubtful. The French First army was moving irresistibly on Ham from Vesle and the Canal du Nord.

At Fismes the French and American advance reached the old Hindenburg line, had Ham practically flanked and was rapidly approaching Laon. The last named city has been one of the most important of the German bases in Picardy and the heart of the present Hun operations. It is a great center of railways and highways and its capture by the allies, it was said, must mean the further retirement of the enemy.

The British in Picardy opened the week by occupying Peronne after an Australian force had captured Mont St. Quentin in a brilliant operation. A little to the north Haig's men then took Comblies, Morval, Courcellette and Le Transloy, and straightened out their

new line by advancing it to Moislans and to the east of Neuville. Then, on Monday, came a grand British smash which wrecked the much-vaunted Wotan switch line of the Hindenburg line, from Drocourt to Queant. Despite the resistance of great masses of infantry and artillery, the British rushed forward on a ten-mile front and speedily made a gain of some five miles, the German losses being frightful. In the succeeding days they kept up the drive remorselessly, putting much of the Canal du Nord behind their lines and approaching within a few miles of Douai and Cambrai. These two cities were so important to the German defensive system that large numbers of troops were rushed to their rescue and the British drive was slowed down perceptibly by the end of the week, though it was by no means stopped.

All through the week there were reports that many towns and villages back of the German lines in Picardy were in flames and it was certain that the foe were destroying great quantities of supplies which they were not given time to remove.

In the Lys sector, the salient west of Armentieres, the German retreat, under compulsion, continued steadily and the British advanced as far as Neuve Chapelle and Laventie, taking a number of villages. The northern part of this sector became of especial interest to Americans because the Yankees were there engaged in their first battle on Belgian soil. These troops, later identified by General March as the Thirtieth division of Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina men, captured Voormezele and other towns in the vicinity, and next day pushed on further eastward. Thursday the British, presumably aided by these same Americans, took Ploegsteert village and Hill 63, dominating points on the Messines ridge. By that time the British, from Neuve Chapelle south to Givenchy, had reached the line they held before the German drive of April 9 last, and east of Givenchy they had occupied parts of the old German positions.

Altogether it was a highly satisfactory week on the west front. The German military critics have given up trying to conceal wholly the truth of the Hun reverses, but some of them predict that the retreat will not go much farther. The German crown prince broke into print with an interview in which he declared the German idea of victory now is "to hold our own and not allow ourselves to be vanquished." He said only the allies were waging a war of extermination; that the Germans wished to annihilate none of their enemies. The Hun peace offensive seems to have petered out entirely for the time being.

The British government, aroused by the sacking of its embassy in Petrograd and the murder of Captain Cromie, the British attaché, has sent an ultimatum to the soviet government at Moscow, demanding reparation and prompt punishment of the guilty and threatening to hold the members of the bolshevik government individually responsible and to have them treated as outlaws by all civilized nations. Meanwhile the British are holding Litvinoff, bolshevik representative in London, and his staff under arrest pending the release of British officials who were arrested in Russia.

Belated dispatches from Siberia tell of the destruction of the bolshevik army east of Lake Balkal by the Czechoslovaks and say the Cossacks are co-operating with the Czechs. It appears that uninterrupted connection has been established between the allied forces across Siberia all the way from the Volga to Vladivostok and that the vanguard of the Czechs has joined hands with General Semenov's troops on the Onon river.

In northern European Russia the allies and loyal Russians have gained further successes south of Archangel and inflicted severe losses on the bolsheviks.

On the Ussuri front in eastern Siberia the allied forces have been driving the bolsheviks northward, defeating them in every engagement and inflicting heavy casualties. The Americans under General Graves joined in these operations.

The suppression of the Social Rev-

olutionists in Moscow is being carried out with a heavy hand. About five thousand of them have been arrested and sentenced to death, and it is said they will be executed if their party shows any further opposition to the soviet government. The streets of Moscow are under the strictest military guard.

Details of the supplementary Russo-German agreements have been made public. Germany promises to evacuate all occupied territory east of Livonia and Estonia as soon as boundaries are established, and to get out of all other territory east of Germany when Russia has fulfilled her financial obligations, which must be within four months. Russia is pledged to fight against the entente forces in northern Russia, and Germany promises that Finland shall not attack. Russia renounces its sovereignty over Estonia and Livonia, but is to have free transit to Reval, Riga and Windau.

An attempt to assassinate Nicolai Lenin, soviet premier, was made by a girl in Moscow, but at last reports he was still alive though in a serious condition. Very likely his death would be a godsend to Russia.

There is not much to say of the war on the Italian, Albanian and Greek fronts. Small engagements are numerous, but no decisive operations have been started lately. In Albania the movement of the allied line for a short distance is explained by the necessity of preparing for winter by occupying certain dominating heights. Austria has not attempted anything important in Italy, possibly because she is too busy trying to settle her internal troubles, or because of the call on her for troops to help out the sorely-pressed Germans in France. Several Austrian divisions have been identified on the west front. Meanwhile the Italian airmen, aided by American flyers, have been doing a lot of bombing of Austrian towns, railways and naval stations.

According to dispatches from Munich by way of Geneva, Count von Hertling, the imperial chancellor, resigned Thursday, giving poor health as the cause of his action.

From Cologne came the news that the commandant of the Brandenburg province had placed the province, including the city of Berlin, under martial law in order to stop the "invention and circulation of untrue rumors calculated to disquiet the populace."

General March said last week that more than 250,000 American troops were landed in France during August, and that up to the first of September more than 1,000,000 had embarked for the various fronts, including those sent to France, England, Italy and Siberia. There has been no official mention of late of the First American Field army, and observers in France and in England believe it is being prepared for a great drive, of which the present big offensive is but the preliminary.

All preparations have been completed for the registration of men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one and thirty-one and forty-five, under the new draft law. General Crowder has called on the people to aid in making the registration a complete success, and, so far as the older men are concerned, has given assurance that a very large proportion of them will not be required to go to the front. The young men, he and most others believe, will be only too glad to get into this greatest and most righteous of all wars.

Spain has not yet come to the breaking point with Germany, but another Spanish vessel having been torpedoed, has decided to seize German interned ships without further parley. The tone of the press there, and also in other neutral countries, is becoming distinctly proally.

American shipyards set a record during August, turning out 96 ships aggregating 340,145 dead weight tons. Forty-four were of steel. The total tonnage built for the shipping board has now passed the two million mark. British merchant vessels completed during August amounted to 124,075 gross tons. The new construction in the allied countries is now well ahead of the destruction by submarines.

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by Wilbur D. Nesbit
Author of
"Your Flag and My Flag"

The banner breaks in glory on the breeze,
The trumpets sing from all their brazen throats
A chorused chant of thrilling harmonies,
The drumbeats throb amid the ringing notes—
An echo, but a growing echo; yes,
An echo that is flung from hill to plain,
An echo that shall never grow the less,
Born from the chord that was not struck in vain.

The diapason of the booming guns
Blends with the shriller sounding of the cheers—
Ah, this had been foreheard by those great ones
Who planned the structure in the former years,
Who dreamed and dared, and gave of wealth and life
That this great nation-song should never cease,
Who blent the surging song of somber strife
With all the after croons of honored peace!

And so today the southland and the north
Clasp hands with their blood-brothered east and west
And in the mighty song their lips send forth
The fullness of our faith is all expressed.
And deeper than the very deepest chord
Are the foundations laid in days ago
When men for hearth and home and manhood warred—
The truths our nation has been builded on.

And higher than the farthest reach of song
That quivers in the bosom of the sky
There flames the flag of faith above the throng—
The flag whose plan and purpose cannot die.
The flag of promise floats from sea to sea,
The bugles shout in answer to the drum
And send a sense of strength to you and me
From days that were, and are, and are to come!



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Plans national party.

The Minnesota Federation of Labor in its thirty-sixth annual session at Virginia, officially threw its hat into the political ring with the passage of a resolution ordering the calling of a caucus in St. Paul, August 24 next, for the organization of a separate labor party and the nomination of a complete state ticket.

Send Us Your Job Printing.

Take Cover in Hun Trenches. While the advance was slow at times, Sergeant Croshaw explained, owing to the trenches and wires, the trenches assisted the Americans in keeping under cover.

On the east side of the Bethune-Soissons road, the Americans took a few prisoners Sunday.